

In the claims

1-30 (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;

provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by one or more callers using one of the subscription codes;

querying a controller for call routing instructions when a call initiated by a caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch and a time of day when the call was initiated;

determining an originating region from which the call was initiated;

retrieving a telephone number from a table containing associations of the subscription code to multiple telephone numbers corresponding to different originating regions based at least in part on the subscription code, the time of day when the call was initiated such that the telephone number retrieved is different at the time of day than it is at a second time of day, and the originating region determined for the call, wherein the telephone number is substantially permanently assigned to the subscription code and wherein the subscription code is associated with two or more different subscribers based on the time of day such that a subscriber associated with the telephone number retrieved at the second time of day is different from the subscriber associated with the telephone number retrieved at the time of day when the call was initiated; and

terminating the call using the retrieved telephone number.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the originating region is determined based on one or more of an NPA-NXX designation, an originating point code, and a zip code associated with the caller.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;

provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by callers using one of the subscription codes;

querying a controller for call routing instructions when a call initiated by a caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch and a time of day when the call was initiated;

retrieving a plurality of telephone numbers from a table containing associations of the subscription code to multiple telephone numbers based at least in part on the subscription code and the time of day when the call was initiated, wherein the telephone numbers are substantially permanently assigned to the subscription code;

offering the caller a selection of one of the retrieved telephone numbers corresponding to the same originating region and depending on the time of day when the call was initiated such that the plurality of telephone numbers offered to the caller is different at the time of day than it is at a second time of day, wherein the subscription code is associated with two or more different subscribers based on the time of day such that one or more subscribers associated with the plurality of telephone numbers retrieved at the second time of day are different from one or more subscribers associated with the plurality of telephone numbers retrieved at the time of day when the call was initiated; and

terminating the call using the retrieved telephone number.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;

provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by callers using one of the subscription codes;

querying a controller for call routing instructions when a call initiated by a caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch and a time of day when the call was initiated;

presenting to the caller a list of subscribers associated with the subscription code and depending on the time of day when the call was initiated such that the list of subscribers presented to the caller is different at the time of day than it is at a second time of day, wherein the subscription code is associated with two or more different subscribers based on the time of day such that a subscriber associated with the telephone number retrieved at the second time of day is different from the subscriber associated with the telephone number retrieved at the time of day when the call was initiated;

receiving one telephone number corresponding to a subscriber that has been chosen by the caller from the list, wherein the one telephone number is substantially permanently assigned to the subscriber code; and

terminating the call using the telephone number.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the presenting step involves a prerecorded announcement.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the presenting and receiving steps are performed by one or both of a service node and the switch.

39. (Previously Presented) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;

provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by one or more callers using one of the subscription codes;

querying a controller for call routing instructions when a first call initiated by a

first caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch;
determining an originating region from which the first call was initiated;
retrieving a plurality of telephone numbers from a table containing associations of the subscription code to multiple telephone numbers corresponding to different originating regions based at least in part on the subscription code and the originating region determined for the first call, wherein the telephone number is substantially permanently assigned to the subscription code;
offering the first caller a selection of one of the retrieved telephone numbers corresponding to the same originating region and wherein the plurality of retrieved telephone numbers is offered to the first caller in a predetermined round robin order such that a second caller on a second call is presented with the plurality of retrieved telephone numbers in a different order than the first caller; and
terminating the call using the retrieved telephone number.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the originating region is determined based on one or more of an NPA-NXX designation, an originating point code, and a zip code associated with the caller.

41. (Currently Amended) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;
provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by callers using one of the subscription codes;
querying a controller for call routing instructions when a ~~first~~ call initiated by a ~~first~~ caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch;
retrieving a plurality of telephone numbers from a table containing associations of the subscription code to multiple telephone numbers based at least in part on the subscription code, wherein the multiple telephone number [[is]] are substantially permanently assigned to the subscription code and are associated with a plurality of subscribers associated with the subscription code;

~~selecting for offering the first caller a selection of one of the one of the multiple telephone numbers associated with one of the plurality of subscribers associated with the subscription code retrieved telephone numbers corresponding to the same originating region and wherein the plurality of offered telephone numbers is presented to the first caller in a predetermined round robin order such that each of the plurality of subscribers has the same chance of being contacted by the caller using the subscription code a second caller on a second call is presented with the plurality of retrieved telephone numbers in a different order than the first caller; and~~

~~terminating the call using the selected retrieved telephone number.~~

42. (New) A method for providing subscription code services in a geographical area, the method comprising:

allocating a plurality of subscription codes for the services;

provisioning a trigger at each of at least one switch within the geographical area, wherein the trigger is adapted to detect calls initiated by callers using one of the subscription codes;

querying a controller for call routing instructions when a call initiated by a caller using a subscription code is detected at a switch;

retrieving a plurality of telephone numbers from a table containing associations of the subscription code to multiple telephone numbers based at least in part on the subscription code, wherein the multiple telephone number are substantially permanently assigned to the subscription code and are associated with a plurality of subscribers associated with the subscription code;

selecting for the first caller one of the multiple telephone numbers associated with one of the plurality of subscribers associated with the subscription code in a predetermined round robin order such that one of the plurality of subscribers has a greater chance of being contacted by the caller using the subscription code than the remaining plurality of subscribers; and

terminating the call using the selected telephone number.